

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 143076
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 ICAE-00 EB-08 /019 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:HWEINLAND:HMN

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

DOC/287:MINOUSSA

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

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O 062150Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN/AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISIT

1. A POTENTIAL PROBLEM HAS ARISEN IN THE PROGRAMMING OF THE NIGERIAN/AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GROUP IN LOS ANGELES. THE DEPARTMENT ATTEMPTED IN THE EARLY STAGES TO CONTACT BOTH THE FOREIGN TRADE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND SSM CORPORATION ABOUT PLANNING FOR THE VISIT. APPARENTLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS HAVE DETERIORATED, AND FTA BELIEVES THAT SSM IS ATTEMPTING TO PROGRAM VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE GROUP'S TIME IN LOS ANGELES. THE SITUATION IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE FTA CANNOT COMMIT ITSELF AT THIS TIME TO PROVIDING A LUNCHEON ON JUNE 19TH TO FOLLOW THE MORNING WORKSHOP SESSION; THUS DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ARE UNABLE TO INSIST THAT THIS TIME BE RESERVED FOR THE FTA PROGRAM.

2. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE NATURE

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OF ANY COMMITMENT MADE FROM LAGOS TO ALLOW SSM TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENTIRE LOS ANGELES PROGRAM. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE143076
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HW EINLAND:HMN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780236-0879
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780689/aaaaczep.tel
Line Count: 57
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 54bee390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2466272
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGERIAN/AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISIT
TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, NI
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/54bee390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014